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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/642,979 | 08/18/2003 | Yasuji Yui | 09812.0381-00000 | 3411 |

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EXAMINER

DADA, BEEMNET W

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2135

DATE MAILED: 11/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/642,979 | Applicant(s) YUI ET AL. | |
| | Examiner Beemnet W. Dada | Art Unit 2135 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-9 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gutta et al. US 2002/0125993 A1 (hereinafter Gutta).

4. As per claims 1 and 7, Gutta teaches an electronic device controlling apparatus comprising:

a communication unit for communicating with electronic devices [paragraphs 0027-028];
storing means for storing personal identification information and personal information in correspondence with each other [paragraphs 0031, 0034 and 0035];

detecting means for detecting personal identification information and a location where a person identified by the detected personal identification information is present [paragraphs 0030, 0034 and 0036];

searching means for searching said storing means for said personal information corresponding to said personal identification information detected by said detecting means [paragraphs 0034 and 0035]; and

controlling means which, based on said personal information searched for by said searching means, causes said communication unit to transmit a control signal to the electronic device installed in the detected location [paragraphs 0032 and 0035].

5. As per claim 4, Gutta teaches an electronic device controlling system comprising:
an electronic device installed in each of one or a plurality of rooms [paragraph 0036];
an electronic device controlling apparatus which is connected to said electronic device installed in each of said one or said plurality of rooms and which is capable of controlling said electronic device [paragraphs 0036, 0037]; and

personal identification information transmitting means which is furnished in each of said one or said plurality of rooms and which transmits to said electronic device controlling apparatus personal identification information about a person having entered in any one of said one or said plurality of rooms [paragraphs 0036-0038];

wherein said electronic device controlling apparatus includes: a communication unit for communicating with said electronic devices [paragraphs 0036-0037];

a reception unit for receiving said personal identification information from said personal identification information transmitting means furnished in each of said one or said plurality of rooms [paragraphs 0036-0037];

detecting means for detecting the room from which said personal identification information received by said reception unit has been transmitted [paragraphs 0036-0038];

storing means for storing said personal identification information and said personal information in correspondence with each other [paragraphs 0031, 0034 and 0035];

searching means for searching said storing means for said personal information

Art Unit: 2135

corresponding to said personal identification information detected by said reception unit [paragraphs 0034, 0035 and 0037]; and

controlling means which, based on said personal information searched for by said searching means, causes said communication unit to transmit a control signal to the electronic device installed in the room detected by said detecting means [paragraphs 0038-0040].

6. As per claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8 and 9, Gutta further teaches the device wherein said storing means stores the personal identification information and personal information about a plurality of persons as well as priority information about each of said plurality of persons, and wherein said controlling means transmits to said electronic device the control signal based on the priority information corresponding to the personal identification information detected by said detecting means [paragraphs 0034-0035].

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO Form 892.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Beemnet W. Dada whose telephone number is (571) 272-3847. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (9:00 am - 5:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y. Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Beemnet W Dada

November 21, 2006



KIM VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100